

# 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal

Revised February 2008

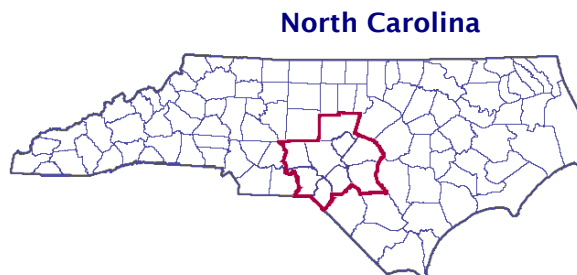
## Fayetteville and Eastern North Carolina

(Nine-county region of Chatham, Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond and Scotland)

The 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal is the last opportunity for the Census Bureau to study the operations planned for the 2010 Census.

The city of Fayetteville, N.C., and the surrounding nine-county area was selected as a dress rehearsal site primarily because it is a mix of urban, suburban and rural areas.

San Joaquin County, Calif., also was selected by the Census Bureau to participate in the 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal.



## What You Need to Know

- Households in the dress rehearsal site will receive a census questionnaire in the mail. Residents are asked to complete the forms and return them by mail.
- Census workers will visit households that do not return a completed questionnaire.
- Keeping answers confidential is the Census Bureau's highest priority—a commitment that is backed by one of the strongest confidentiality laws in the United States.

- No data or population counts will be published for the 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal.

**"Participating in the 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal will help the Census Bureau produce more accurate counts of the people and housing units in your community and across the nation in 2010."**

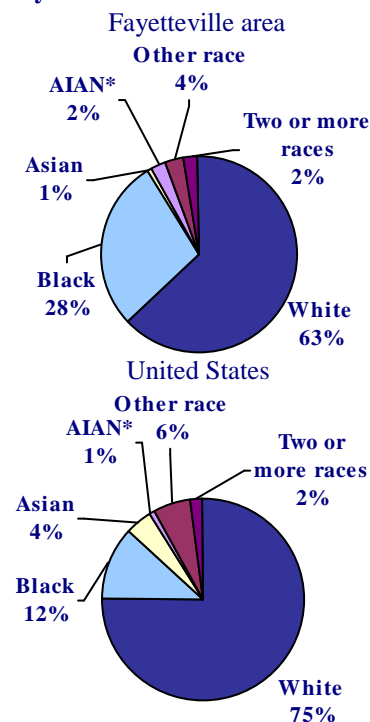
—Steve Murdock,  
Director of the U.S. Census Bureau

## Fayetteville & Surrounding Area Quick Facts

### Population

Fayetteville area 710,156  
U.S. 281,421,906

### Percentage of Population by Race



\*American Indians and Alaska Natives

### Hispanic Origin: Percentage of Population

Fayetteville area 6.6%  
U.S. 12.5%

### Percentage of Population Age 5+ Who Speak Spanish at Home

Fayetteville area 5.7%  
U.S. 10.0%

### Housing Units

Fayetteville area 294,690  
U.S. 115,904,641

### Population in Group Quarters

Fayetteville area 29,400  
U.S. 7,778,633

Source: Census 2000

## Census Jobs

A wide variety of temporary positions must be filled in order to conduct a census. The Fayetteville Local Census Office will hire more than 2,500 residents of the nine-county area. These employees conduct interviews with community residents and update addresses. Most positions require U.S. citizenship, a driver's license and use of a vehicle. Applicants must be 18 or older.

For census taker jobs, work schedules vary. In the field, some census operations require working during daylight hours. For operations that require interviewing people in their homes, work must be done during hours when people are usually home. This includes evenings and weekends.

### Census Jobs

Call to schedule an appointment to take the test and apply for a job.  
Fayetteville Census Office  
1-866-673-2008  
TDD: 1-704-344-6114

Enumerators are paid \$13.75 per hour.

## Methods and Operations



- Use of hand-held computers with Global Positioning System (GPS) technology for field data collection and support operations.
- Improved methods for collecting data from respondents who speak a language other than English, including using bilingual questionnaires in designated areas.
- Mailing of replacement questionnaires to increase response rates and thus minimize the need to conduct personal follow-up visits.
- Improved methods to eliminate duplicate responses.

## Fast Fact

Every year, more than \$300 billion in federal funds are awarded to localities based on census data.

## Members of U.S. Congress Representing the Dress Rehearsal Site

Sen. Elizabeth Dole, R-North Carolina  
Sen. Richard Burr, R-North Carolina  
Rep. Bob Etheridge, D-North Carolina, 2nd District  
Rep. David Price, D-North Carolina, 4th District  
Rep. Howard Coble, R-North Carolina, 6th District  
Rep. Mike McIntyre, D-North Carolina, 7th District  
Rep. Robin Hayes, R-North Carolina, 8th District

## Dress Rehearsal Timeline

### 2006

Recruiting for temporary staff begins.

### 2007

The Local Census Office opens. It will serve as the hub of local dress rehearsal activity.

About 500 census workers verify addresses in the nine-county area.

### 2008

Questionnaires will be mailed to households.

**Census Day is May 1, 2008.**

Approximately 2,000 census workers visit households that have not mailed back a census questionnaire.

The Local Census Office closes.